Rural development prosperity through connectivity (RUPCON)

*440. SHRIMATI N.R DURGA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a multi-pronged plan for ushering in rural development prosperity through connectivity (RUPCON) has been unveiled;

(b) whether it is also a fact that "10 immediate missions" to achieve the goals of rural development are proposed to be set up; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (DR. RAGHUBANSH PRASAD SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Question does not arise.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Secret and confidential defence information on Internet

2244. SHRI C. PERUMAL: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether secret and confidential information relating to defence is still available on Internet;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken to identify and punish the guilty?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) Classified (secret and confidential) information is not available on websites of Ministry of Defence and Organisations thereunder.

(b) and (c) Question does not arise in view of (a) above.

Spying by 'USS Bowditch' inside India's EEZ

2245. SHRI EKANATH K. THAKUR: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Naval headquarters have sent a detailed note to the

Ministry of Defence raising serious objections about an American warship "USS Bowditch" spying consistently for several months in 2002-2003 and carrying out unauthorised exercises off the Vishakapatnam coast well inside India's Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ); and

(b) if so, the action Government propose to take against the American warship for this illegal act against international rules?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Constitution of a commission for Ex-servicemen

† 2246. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal for constituting a Commission to formulate a comprehensive policy with a view to study and sort out the problems of ex-servicemen; and

(b) if so, the details of steps to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Question does not arise.

Crash of MIG and Mirage Jet Fighters

2247. SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) how many MIG and Mirage Jet Fighter Planes have crashed in the last five years;

(b) the number of pilots killed in such mishaps; and

(c) Government's reaction thereto and the preventive action taken to avert such mishaps?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) A

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.